

Saskatchewan Communications Network



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Regina, Saskatchewan

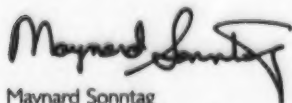
To His Honour

The Honourable John Edward Neil Wiebe  
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Communications Network Corporation (SCN) for the year ended March 31, 1999, including financial statements, in accordance with The Communications Network Corporation Act.

I have the honour to be,  
your obedient servant,



Maynard Sonntag  
Minister Responsible for SCN

## Letter of Transmittal



SCN has been a part of the Saskatchewan scene for ten years now, and since its incorporation in 1989, has provided important services to the people of Saskatchewan.

During the past year, SCN has had a number of successes in fulfilling its mandate. The SCN Training Network continues to expand, and while the huge growth in number of sites and students has peaked, the focus has shifted to providing a better quality service. This shift has improved support for the new training initiatives undertaken in the past year.

The Broadcast Network continues to develop a unique provincial identity through the use of Saskatchewan musicians and artists, and SCN's support of the Saskatchewan film and video industry provides SCN with award-winning Saskatchewan programming unlike anything else on television.

SCN's early involvement in new media has enabled it to provide the required support to the numerous projects now underway, and in the coming years we expect that SCN will continue to develop its ability to deliver education and

information using a variety of media. In the current year, SCN is involved in some new media projects that will expand the range of options available to rural and northern students.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend the Corporation's thanks to Chris Banman, who served two terms on the Board, including one term as Board Chair.

A lot has happened at SCN in ten years, and we look forward to a bright future for this important Saskatchewan initiative. As we make plans for the future, we would very much like to hear from you. Much of what SCN does is a response to the expressed needs of Saskatchewan people.

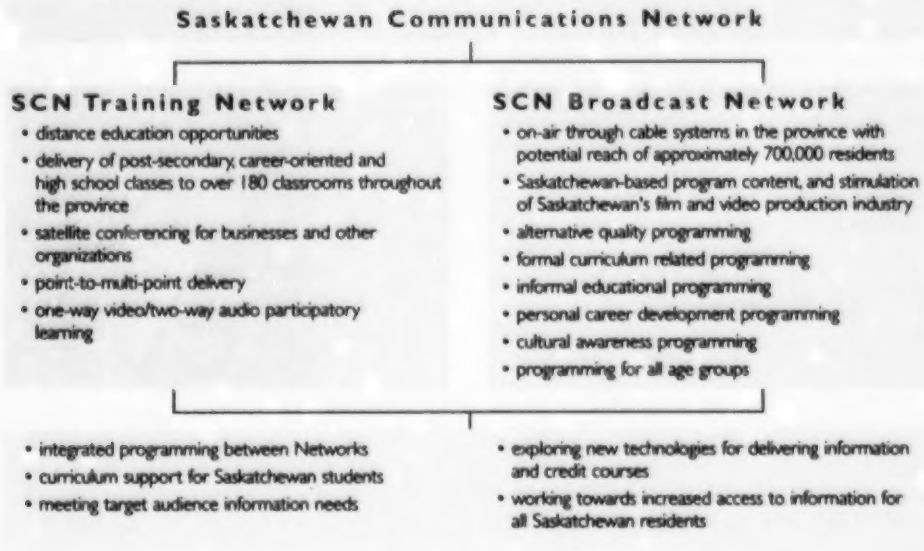


Larry Symes  
Chair

## Message From the Board Chair

## Corporate Profile

The Saskatchewan Communications Network (SCN) was created by an act of the Legislature to provide increased access to information for the people of the province.



## Board of Directors

Sonja Gehl  
Vice Chair

Gary Simons  
Board Member  
Carol Lafond  
Board Member

Terry Paley  
Board Member  
V. Lynne Pearson  
Board Member

Dan Perrins  
Board Member  
Larry Symes  
Chair

## SCN Employees

James Benning  
President and CEO  
Brenda Bzdel  
Scheduling Officer  
Ben Capili  
Technical Assistant  
Rhyse Cardinal  
Scheduling Officer  
Corinne Charko  
Public Affairs Assistant

Linda Dewhirst  
Manager, Multimedia  
Paul Fudge  
Executive Director,  
Operations  
Sunni Glaze  
Manager, Scheduling  
and Acquisitions  
Richard Gustin  
Executive Director,  
Programming  
Jim Johns  
Assistant Manager,  
Technology

Bill Jones  
Program Manager  
Satinder Kumar  
Program Manager  
Ron Lawson  
Multimedia Technical  
Coordinator  
Iain MacDonald  
Director, Public Affairs  
Twyla MacDougall  
Finance/Administration  
Officer  
Myrna Martyniuk  
Director, Finance and  
Human Resources

Brent Norman  
Technology Assistant  
Lila Rubin  
Executive Assistant  
David Stanchuk  
Manager, Technology  
Shelley Svedahl  
Manager,  
Training Network  
Cherie Westmoreland  
Program Manager  
Sandy Whelen  
Scheduling Officer

## Vision

SCN is a leader in supporting the educational, cultural and social aspirations of the people of Saskatchewan through the creative use of technologies.

## Mission

The mission of SCN is to increase the opportunity for all Saskatchewan residents to access and participate in learning, and to communicate on issues of common concern.

## Mandate

SCN develops and uses technologies to provide all Saskatchewan residents with access to cost-effective educational, informational and cultural programming, and training opportunities.

## Goals

- 1 To promote the development, delivery, and increased availability of educational, informational, and cultural programming in Saskatchewan.
- 2 To stimulate the development and utilization of distance education methods and technologies in fulfilling information and training needs.
- 3 To support Saskatchewan film and video productions.
- 4 To develop and maintain partnerships that enable SCN to meet its corporate objectives.
- 5 To identify and secure resources required to meet the corporate mandate.



Paul Fudge, Executive Director, Operations, played a key role in the development of SCN's Corporate Direction.

## Corporate Direction

### Corporate Values

SCN contributes to the educational, social, cultural and economic well being of the province by encouraging life-long learning. We are committed to respecting, encouraging, and supporting SCN's employees, and recognize the role staff play in the development of the corporation.

In our work, SCN staff are guided by the following values:

#### Integrity

*We believe in the worth and potential of the individual and in treating people honestly, fairly and with respect.*

#### Creativity & Innovation

*We believe in nurturing creativity, risk-taking and innovation, both internally and with our client groups.*

#### Accountability

*We believe in being accountable for our actions and the management of our resources.*

#### Equity

*We believe in equitable access to life-long learning and employment opportunities.*

#### Communication

*We believe in open, honest discussion, sharing information and teamwork.*

#### Collaboration

*We believe in working collaboratively, both internally and externally.*

#### Excellence

*We believe in the pursuit of excellence in all we do.*

*I caught the last part of a show you aired on Sunday, May 17th at 8:00 p.m. called Blue Eyed. I would like to know how to get access to it, so I might view it again.*

Janet  
North Battleford

*We enjoyed the story of Teru Teru Bozu. We like all such stories of other cultures—they make us realize how much we have to learn about each other's similarities and differences rather than dwelling on stereotypes.*

Mrs. Arthur Gross  
Outlook

*SCN provides the opportunity to access courses that are not available in my community. SCN enables all Saskatchewan residents to complete a variety of courses without having to travel to a major center. The instruction is in-depth and the instructors are readily available to answer questions and address concerns.*

Dianne Schneider

## 1998/99 Highlights

### April 1998

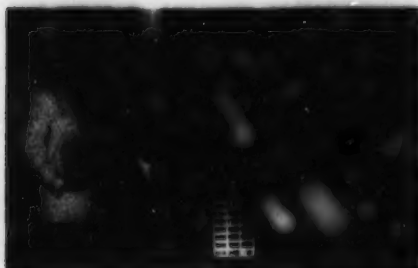
- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *Market Prospects '98*, which examines the agricultural markets for the upcoming production season.
- The Saskatchewan Seniors Education Corporation presents *Learning for Life*, a series of distance learning opportunities for seniors in rural communities.

### May 1998

- *The Children's Miracle Network Telethon* runs on the SCN Broadcast Network. The annual telethon raises funds for children's health initiatives within the province, and promotes education about child safety and health issues.
- SCN marks National Mental Health Week with special programming on the Broadcast Network.
- SCN establishes a Multimedia Unit to continue administering multimedia contracts, and to explore delivery options for distance education.

### June 1998

- The Saskatchewan Legal Education Society presents a Loss Prevention Seminar on the SCN Training Network.



- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *The Little Town That Could*, a program about the economic challenges faced by Saskatchewan communities.

### July 1998

- All SCN staff participate in equity workshop exploring Métis history and current affairs.

### August 1998

- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *Canola Jungle*, which presents current information about canola production on the prairies.
- SCN presents a satellite training event for SCN Coordinator Training and another for K-12 Instructor Orientation.

### September 1998

- Continuing Pharmacy Education presents a satellite conference — *The Changing Face of HIV/AIDS Care*.
- SCN begins weekly print ads in the TV Times to promote new programming on the Broadcast Network.
- Viewer Services begins distributing fulfillment materials for SCN's Broadcast Network.
- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *The Earth's Garden*, *The Boys Who Loved Hockey*, *Doll Hospital*, and *Schubert at Somewhere on the Prairie*.

### October 1998

- SCN presents The Garth Ferguson Award for Excellence in Televised Teaching to post-secondary educators Professor Paul Bidwell (U of S), Linda Doell and Margaret Meckelborg (SIAS-T-Kelsey Campus).
- SCN, Tap Communications Inc., University of Saskatchewan Division of Audio Visual Services, and University of Regina Audio Visual Services combine to present a training event called *Taking to the Sky: Planning an Effective Satellite Conference*.

*The Garth Ferguson Award (l-r) Margaret Meckelborg, Professor Paul Bidwell, Leeta Ferguson, Linda Doell; (seated) Hon. Maynard Sanitog, Dr. Cyril Keston. (missing: Gail Bowen).*

## The Year Ahead

- To continue to work on the Learning Technologies strategy with Saskatchewan Education and other partners, through March 31, 2000.
- To continue to work with Saskatchewan Education on opportunities linked to the use of SCN's DVC technology during 1999-2000.
- To continue to work with stakeholders and educational partners in the delivery of educational programming, ongoing.
- To continue to work in conjunction with our educational partners in setting priorities for the use of new learning technologies, by March 31, 2000.
- To conduct training sessions geared specifically to teachers making use of the Training Network, by March 31, 2000.



- SCN and the National Space Centre present a special event called *Space Tour*.
- Saskatoon Seniors present a satellite conference called *Canada at War*.

### November 1998

- SCN presents a special live presentation of the Remembrance Day ceremonies from the AgriDome in Regina.
- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *Nikiskisina: We Remember Them* and *Western Outlander*.
- Saskatchewan Social Services presents the satellite conference *Module I Training for Family and Youth Division*.
- SCN presents *One Survivor's Message: Don't Kill Yourself*, a live, interactive program on teen suicide, featuring host Ann Medina, a panel of experts, a studio audience, and a live call-in.
- SCN and partners launch *Eco-Regions of Saskatchewan* CD-ROM.

### December 1998

- Canadian Forces Recruiting presents a satellite conference called *Employment Opportunities, Entry Plans and Eligibility*.
- Saskatchewan Social Services presents a three-day satellite conference for *Module II Training*.

### January 1999

- Saskatchewan Social Services presents a three-day satellite conference for *Module III Training*.
- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include: *The Gift of the Grandfathers*, *Open Fire*, *University of the People*, *Roger Ing's Utopia*, *Last Word From Moose Jaw*, *Body Image*, *Dangerous Games*, *Drugs* and *The MAXimum Dimension*.

### February 1999

- Saskatchewan Health presents two satellite conferences: *Integrated Case Management and Injury Control: Developing a Community Based Approach*.

- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *Houston and the Great Horned Owls*.
- The 1999 Faraday Lecture was a special event carried live from London, England to schools throughout Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan Institute on Prevention of Handicaps presents a satellite conference called *Fetal Alcohol Syndrome*.
- The Regina Multicultural Society presents a satellite conference called *Video Training for Anti-Racism Day*.
- The Prairie Swine Centre presents a satellite conference called *Productivity and Profitability*.
- All staff participate in an equity workshop entitled *Creating a Diverse Workplace*.

### March 1999

- Saskatchewan Health presents a satellite conference entitled *Smoking*.
- Saskatchewan Social Services presents a three-day satellite conference for *Module IV Training*.
- Canadian Forces Recruiting presents a satellite conference entitled *Education and Employment Opportunities*.
- New Saskatchewan productions on the SCN Broadcast Network include *Workers Will*.
- Continuous learning and professional development are SCN priorities. Many staff members participated in training or skills upgrading at a post-secondary level during the 1998/99 fiscal year.

Both my family and my mother enjoy your programs—there is not a lot of programming which satisfies like SCN. We particularly enjoy your nature, science and biographies.

Paige Finney  
Prince Albert

A couple of years ago I watched a series called 39 Weeks and Counting, which was a documentary describing the 39 weeks prior to childbirth, on the SCN Network. I am wondering if I could obtain a copy of this series or if it is going to air again in the near future. It was a very educational and interesting series and now that I'm awaiting my second child I would like to see it again.

Carol Russell  
Moosomin

- To continue to actively participate in the development, production, pre-licensing and acquisition of Saskatchewan film and video productions, ongoing.
- To continue to develop and commission interstitial material reflecting Saskatchewan themes, ongoing.
- To continue to respond to community identified learning needs, partnering in program acquisition, delivery and promotion, ongoing.
- To continue to actively participate in the development, production, pre-licensing and acquisition of programming produced by Saskatchewan First Nations and Métis producers, ongoing.
- To use the Broadcast Network as one vehicle in the delivery of multimedia programming, ongoing.
- To provide a training workshop for all special event clients, and potential clients, on the use of training information technology and training media, by October 31, 1999.
- To provide professional development opportunities for all staff, where possible, to ensure that employees' knowledge remains current within individual areas of expertise, ongoing.
- To hold two awareness workshops for staff, relating to the designated groups, by March 31, 2000.

## Distance Education

*I have one year left of my Bachelor of Social Work. Thanks to SCN classes and other means of distance education, I have been able to live in my home in rural Saskatchewan and not have the expense and hassles of moving to the city in order to reach my educational goals.*

*Distance education is the one resource in rural Saskatchewan that has let me accomplish the same things as a urban person or someone who has the freedom and opportunity to move to the city.*

*Within the next year I will have completed my degree thanks to distance education and to the faculty and staff at the University of Regina who have listened to my request for classes and who have done all they could to ensure the classes I needed could be offered. Thanks Pat McKenzie.*

*Debby Kwimaa  
Turtle Lake*

*We had very good reception this year.*

*Dianna Kraus, Principal  
Sheila Lissel, Attendant  
LeRoy School*

### Providing Opportunities Across Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Communications Network (SCN) bridges the gap between traditional educational methods and telecommunications-based education and training.

This Network is built upon a delivery system which integrates Saskatchewan's fiber optic system with satellite carriage to provide students with immediate access to an instructor's classroom from a distance.

Using this technology, the Training Network coordinates the delivery of programs from educational institutions, businesses, and professional organizations. By combining advanced technology with quality teaching, the University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST), and three high schools are able to extend their programs to receiving sites across the province.

Regional colleges manage SCN centres in approximately 50 communities and provide learner support and counselling for students. In addition, there are 64 high schools, four SIAST sites, and 29 others equipped to receive one-way video and two-way audio live interactive programming by satellite.

Receiving sites are equipped with a KuBand satellite dish, digital satellite receiver/decoder unit, television monitor, video cassette recorder, telephone, and facsimile machine. In high demand centres, duplicate rooms have been installed, allowing two classes to be received simultaneously.

The continuing success of the SCN Training Network is the result of SCN's collaborative efforts with educational institutions, regional colleges, and other organizations throughout the province. These partnerships provide Saskatchewan people with continued opportunities for education and training in their home communities.

The Training Network enables adult learners to acquire skills training, professional upgrading, and the foundation of a university degree in their home communities.

Funding is provided through SCN to educational institutions (regional colleges, SIAST and universities) on a contract-for-service basis. SCN acts as an arbiter and coordinator in areas of scheduling and network usage between diverse institutions.

There are eight studios (three university studios, one SIAST studio, three high school studios, and one SCN studio) equipped to originate programs to be delivered on the Training Network.

### Post-Secondary Credit Programs

Post-secondary courses are prioritized by the Distance Education Program Review Committee (DEPRC) based on SCN's course development funds.

In 1998/99, SCN delivered 58 university, SIAST and high school credit courses to as many as 152 sites. This represents 2,197.5 hours of credit programming.



SCN staff Brenda Bazel and Ron Lawson at the controls in SCN Studio 3 control room.



|                        |              |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Credit Programs</b> | <b>98/97</b> | <b>96/97</b> | <b>98/99</b> |
| Registrants            | 2935         | 2935         | 3440         |
| Hours                  | 2421.5       | 2421.5       | 2140.5       |
| Classrooms             | 172          | 172          | 185          |
| Programs               | 52           | 52           | 58           |

Credit programming includes university, SIAST, and high school

|                                |              |              |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Special Events Programs</b> | <b>98/97</b> | <b>96/97</b> | <b>98/99</b> |
| Participants                   | 5326         | 5326         | 3200         |
| Hours                          | 107.5        | 107.5        | 107.9        |
| Classrooms                     | 172          | 172          | 185          |
| Programs                       | 31           | 31           | 24           |

Special Event programming relates to training opportunities provided by business, government departments and NGOs.

### Multi-mode Services

SCN supports the delivery of multi-mode courses to expand the delivery of credit courses and to maximize financial resources. There continues to be an increasing trend toward the multi-mode format, which includes a combination of televised, face-to-face, prepackaged video, and computer conferencing.

SIAST courses, for example, were delivered using pre-taped videos which were available to each student in their home. This independent study was supplemented with 12 hours of televised course instruction, allowing for live television teacher-student interaction four times during the semester. New courses are generally delivered using the full 39 hours of on-air time for live, interactive television.



SCN Studio 3

### High School Courses

During 1998/99, SCN delivered a range of live, interactive televised secondary school courses to some rural high schools. These courses were coordinated by the Saskatchewan Government Correspondence School with Campbell Collegiate in Regina, Viscount's School of the Future, and Swift Current Comprehensive High School.

These classes allow rural schools to integrate distance education methodologies with traditional classroom practice, expanding the opportunities and instructional resources for their students.

In each course, an on-air teacher provides instruction to his or her own class along with scheduled live, interactive sessions with the remote classes. Students at a distance view the class on a television monitor and can communicate with the teacher via telephone and facsimile machine. Facilitating teachers at the receiving sites act as resource persons and guides for students, as well as a liaison with the on-air teacher. Assignments are marked, returned, and discussed with the students in remote areas in the same manner as in a traditional face-to-face classroom.

In 1998/99, courses involving approximately 374 hours of high school programming were transmitted by satellite to rural schools.

### Distance Education Roles and Responsibilities

The provision of high school education through distance learning using SCN began in 1990 with the establishment of a partnership between SCN and three Saskatchewan school divisions. Today, the partnership has expanded so that SCN, the Saskatchewan Government Correspondence School, and three production high schools are able to provide 8 classes to any of 152 communities across the province that are linked to the SCN system.

We have been using the ITI service from SCN broadcast satellite system for the past four years.

I have very much appreciated the service to our small rural school. The broadcasts we have received have benefited our students immensely by allowing them to take extra electives on their time tables which would have been impossible otherwise.

Again thank you for accommodating the needs of our rural students. The school and community are very appreciative of your efforts. The instructors are first class educators and the programs are flexible enough to allow for individual needs of our students.

Wonderful Service

Garry J. Viczko  
Principal, Pleasantdale Central School

We were pleased to once again have the opportunity to offer distance education courses. This enabled us to provide several classes which our school could not otherwise offer.

Thank you for allowing us to enrich the rural education experience.

Brian Olson  
Principal, Hazelton School

*I feel the SCN program has offered a valuable opportunity to further my education that will open doors for career advancement that I would not have been able to take advantage of otherwise.*

Cindy Kaith  
Biggar

*I have taken a number of SCN classes here in Northern Saskatchewan during the past two years. I consider long distance learning via satellite to be not only an interesting learning tool but also a valuable asset for many communities who wish to have university courses offered in their area. Thanks to SCN in our community, we had a larger number of classes to choose from.*

*I hope that SCN will continue to offer high quality education to remote regions in our province. I wish SCN the best in their future goals and commend all the staff that make such a program possible.*

Good Job!! Keep the classes coming!

Alex Bird  
La Ronge

### SCN Multimedia Unit

In response to growing demands for technical support and guidance on alternate distance education delivery methods, SCN created the Multimedia Unit in May, 1998. Along with providing technical support and direction, the Unit draws upon SCN's extensive administrative experience with broadcast television projects to assist government departments with their multimedia initiatives. The Unit participates as a partner with government departments and agencies, the province's two universities, SIAST, regional colleges, school divisions and boards, and corporations to assist in increasing access and opportunities for life-long learning through distance education alternatives.

In 1998/99, projects undertaken by the Multimedia Unit, in partnership with other agencies, included:

### Distance Education Pilot Projects

SCN is involved in pilot projects which are testing a variety of distance education options. SCN's roles include: configuring, operating and hosting various servers; providing direction on appropriate software and hardware; technical consulting and support; and provision of a technical help desk. SCN also participates on management, technical, communication and evaluation committees.

- The Basic Education Rural Access Program is based on an individualized basic education program for adults. The system is being designed to include travelling instructors, an on-line instructor and community tutors. Partners in this project are Parkland Regional College, Prairie West Regional College, Yorkton Friendship Centre and SaskTel.

- Web-based high school curriculum modules are being developed by local teachers and will be tested in September, 1999. Partners in this project include Southeast Education Foundation, public and rural school divisions and boards, University of Regina, South East Regional College, both government education departments, SIAST and SaskTel.
- Testing has begun on video conferencing and web-based learning modules for post-secondary classes in partnership with the University of Regina, South East Regional College and Cypress Hills Regional College.

### Project Management and Administration

In 1998-99, SCN acted as project manager and administrator for the following multimedia projects:

- *Ecoregions of Saskatchewan, Exploring Ecological Wonders* CD-ROM in partnership with a steering committee consisting of representatives from university, provincial and federal government departments and agencies.
- *Rights and Responsibilities: Your Path to a Safe Workplace* CD-ROM in partnership with government, construction, labour and health-care industry representatives.
- Saskatchewan Education's K-12 curriculum support multimedia projects including courses on media literacy and traditional Aboriginal storytelling.
- Saskatchewan Correspondence School's curriculum support audio tapes.

# **SCN Delivered Credit Courses – 1998/99**

| Programmer                  | Program                                  | Registrants | # of Sites | Hours        |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------|------------|--------------|
| University of Regina        | Psychology 100                           | 133         | 29         | 39           |
|                             | Biology 100                              | 45          | 10         | 39           |
|                             | English 312                              | 44          | 12         | 39           |
|                             | Astronomy 101                            | 70          | 13         | 39           |
|                             | Cree 100 Semester One SIFC               | 67          | 18         | 39           |
|                             | English 100 Semester One SIFC            | 75          | 21         | 39           |
|                             | Psychology 220                           | 94          | 22         | 39           |
|                             | Biology 101                              | 19          | 6          | 39           |
|                             | Womens Studies 100                       | 153         | 20         | 39           |
|                             | Human Justice 201                        | 125         | 17         | 39           |
|                             | Religious Studies 100                    | 104         | 17         | 39           |
|                             | French 104                               | 23          | 6          | 18           |
|                             | Cree 101 Semester Two SIFC               | 93          | 11         | 39           |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>            | <b>13</b>                                | <b>1045</b> | <b>202</b> | <b>484</b>   |
| SIAST - Palliser            | Accounting 122                           | 113         | 35         | 18           |
|                             | Business Communication I                 | 54          | 25         | 18           |
|                             | Microeconomics Econ120                   | 52          | 24         | 18           |
|                             | Information Systems I COMP 120           | 65          | 30         | 18           |
|                             | Management - Admin 120                   | 72          | 33         | 18           |
|                             | Accounting 125                           | 49          | 18         | 18           |
|                             | Business Communication II                | 36          | 17         | 18           |
|                             | Macroeconomics Econ121                   | 53          | 21         | 18           |
|                             | Information Systems II Comp 121          | 53          | 18         | 18           |
|                             | Math of Finance 120                      | 45          | 21         | 18           |
|                             | Organizational Behaviour II Admin 220    | 48          | 14         | 18           |
|                             | Admin 222                                | 25          | 14         | 45           |
|                             | Marketing 120                            | 66          | 20         | 18           |
|                             | Stats 120                                | 49          | 18         | 18           |
|                             | Law 220                                  | 52          | 20         | 18           |
| SIAST - Wascana             | FMLP 166 Nutrition and Feeding           | 8           | 6          | 12           |
|                             | FMLP 165 Herd Health                     | 11          | 7          | 9            |
|                             | FMLP 164 Genetics and Breeding           | 4           | 4          | 9            |
|                             | Pork Production Technical                | 52          | 9          | 27           |
|                             | Pork Production Nutrition                | 8           | 8          | 27           |
|                             | FMMT 161 Introduction to Futures Trading | 12          | 8          | 12           |
|                             | FMMT 162 Utilize Futures/Options         | 6           | 5          | 12           |
| SIAST - Kelsey              | Lifespan Development B HUMD 280          | 47          | 14         | 39           |
|                             | Customer Service Skills PERS 181         | 13          | 4          | 24           |
|                             | Food Safe II SANT187                     | 15          | 6          | 9            |
|                             | Behaviour DEMC 183                       | 47          | 19         | 18           |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>            | <b>26</b>                                | <b>1055</b> | <b>414</b> | <b>495</b>   |
| University of Saskatchewan  | English 110.6                            | 95          | 15         | 78           |
|                             | Native Studies 110.6                     | 73          | 15         | 78           |
|                             | Native Studies 200.6                     | 29          | 11         | 78           |
|                             | Agricultural Science I (Agric111.3)      | 44          | 15         | 39           |
|                             | Agricultural Science II (Agric 112.3)    | 25          | 10         | 39           |
|                             | Certificates in Agriculture              | 150         | 12         | 28.5         |
|                             | Anthropology 111.3 (audio/mixed mode)    | 18          | 4          | 26           |
|                             | Archeology 112.3 (audio/mixed mode)      | 12          | 5          | 26           |
|                             | Sociology 227.6 (audio/mixed mode)       | 20          | 5          | 52           |
|                             | Educational Psychology 437 (mixed mode)  | 451         | 16         | 24           |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>            | <b>10</b>                                | <b>917</b>  | <b>108</b> | <b>488.5</b> |
| Viscount High School        | French 10                                | 27          | 10         | 83           |
|                             | French 20                                | 30          | 7          | 83           |
|                             | French 30                                | 19          | 8          | 83           |
|                             | French 9                                 | 28          | 10         | 83           |
| Campbell Collegiate         | Calculus 30                              | 98          | 27         | 80           |
|                             | Law 30                                   | 67          | 8          | 80           |
|                             | Psychology 30                            | 88          | 16         | 80           |
| Swift Current Comprehensive | Entrepreneurship 30                      | 17          | 5          | 80           |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>            | <b>8</b>                                 | <b>374</b>  | <b>91</b>  | <b>452</b>   |

I have taken a total of five SCN classes. I have enjoyed them and would recommend them to anyone who was considering taking a class by SCN. It was wonderful not having to leave my family to take all my classes in other places. Although it would be nice if more were offered, I'm taking at least 2 classes in the fall '99 SCN. Hope more will be offered in the next year.

Thank-you

Tracy A. Bodnarchuk  
North Battleford

## Satellite Conferencing

SCN provides an economical training system to help Saskatchewan businesses and organizations deliver seminars and/or training programs to dispersed target audiences. This delivery system, known as Satellite Conferencing, is an efficient and cost-effective way to communicate simultaneously with these audiences.

Programmers use a number of presentation formats including guest speaker presentations, panel discussions, demonstrations, lectures, and dramatizations. Slides, graphics, and pre-produced videotaped programs have also been used to add visual interest and variety. Effective programs have included group activities and discussion at a distance with on-air telephone question-and-answer sessions.

In 1998/99 a number of organizations used the Training Network to reach their target audiences.

| Programmer   | Date                                  | # of Sites | Hours         | Participants |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Saskatchewan Legal Education Society                     | June 5, 1998                          | 8          | 2             | 16           |
| SCN and Programming Institutions                         | August 28, 1998                       | 149        | 3.5           | 521.5        |
| SCN Site Training  | August 28, 1998                       | 3          | 1.5           | 4.5          |
| Continuing Pharmacy Education                            | September 13, 1998                    | 9          | 2.5           | 22.5         |
| U of R   | October 1, 1998                       | 8          | 1             | 8            |
| SCN  | October 2, 1998                       | 56         | 1             | 56           |
| SCN National Space Center                                | October 16, 1998                      | 50         | 2             | 100          |
| Saskatoon Seniors  | Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, 1998 | 12         | 12            | 144          |
| Campbell Collegiate/SCN                                  | November 2, 1998                      | 50         | 1             | 50           |
| Saskatchewan Social Services                             | Nov. 3, 4, 5, 1998                    | 6          | 11.5          | 125          |
| Saskatchewan Legal Education Society                     | November 6, 1998                      | 1          | 2.5           | 2.5          |
| Saskatchewan Legal Education Society                     | December 4, 1998                      | 8          | 3             | 24           |
| Canadian Forces Recruiting                               | December 7, 1998                      | 21         | 1             | 21           |
| Saskatchewan Social Services                             | Dec. 8, 9, 10, 1998                   | 6          | 12.17         | 125          |
| Saskatchewan Social Services                             | Jan. 26, 27, 28, 1999                 | 6          | 10.66         | 125          |
| Multicultural Society                                    | February 1, 1999                      | 35         | 2             | 10           |
| Saskatchewan Institute on Prevention of Handicaps (IEEE) | February 8, 1999                      | 10         | 5.5           | 55           |
|  | February 10, 1999                     | 7          | 2.83          | 100          |
| Saskatchewan Health                                      | February 10, 1999                     | 37         | 4.83          | 800          |
| Saskatchewan Health                                      | February 17, 1999                     | 9          | 4             | 110          |
| Prairie Swine Center                                     | February 24, 1999                     | 7          | 3             | 80           |
| Saskatchewan Social Services                             | March 2, 3, 4, 1999                   | 6          | 10.66         | 125          |
| Saskatchewan Health                                      | March 10, 1999                        | 38         | 5             | 400          |
| Saskatchewan Legal Education Society                     | March 26, 1999                        | 7          | 2.83          | 85           |
| <b>Total of Programs 24</b>                              |                                       | <b>549</b> | <b>167.98</b> | <b>3110</b>  |

SCN received its Educational Broadcast Licence from the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) in February 1991 and began operations on the Broadcast Network in May 1991. SCN's licence was renewed for a four-year term in September 1995, and at March 31, 1999 SCN was in the process of applying for a new licence to begin September 1, 1999.

The Broadcast Network's primary objective is to provide Saskatchewan with a channel for public education by facilitating the development and delivery of educational, informational, and cultural programs. Strategic alliances with educational institutions, government departments, professional associations, non-profit organizations, and the province's film and video industry ensure production and acquisition of relevant programming. These partnerships also facilitate public education and access to a variety of learning opportunities that are unavailable through other types of television services.

The following principles apply to SCN's Broadcast Network activities:

- SCN believes encouragement and support of province-specific programs is essential to reflect this province's unique culture and identity.
- SCN recognizes the unparalleled delivery potential of the integration of its Broadcast and Training Networks. Such a combination provides residents with greater access to formal and informal educational opportunities closer to their home communities. Prime examples on the Broadcast Network include availability of post-secondary support material, career training, K-12 curriculum support, and informal educational programs.
- SCN continues to place emphasis on building partnerships with numerous groups and organizations including formal educational institutions, non-government organizations, cable operators, other broadcasters and other key stakeholders in the development and delivery of targeted, relevant material.

## Broadcast Network

- SCN's present program inventory provides a blend of curriculum support, social awareness, agriculture, health, arts and humanities, drama, environment, career development, science and technology, and children/family resources for scheduling throughout the broadcast day. This inventory is continually expanded and enhanced through consultation and attention to viewer feedback.

### Reach/Content

SCN is broadcast over provincial cable, wireless cable, and direct-to-home satellite systems to more than 250 communities with a potential viewership of approximately 700,000 individuals.

SCN's Canadian content, as designated in its CRTC licence, is 60 percent over the entire broadcast day and 50 percent during the evening broadcast period.

*I was wondering about a program that was on the station called Let's Learn Japanese Series 2. I found the program quite informing and interesting...*

Grace Wong  
Regina

*I very much appreciate receiving your Program Guide on a regular basis. It's great to have a station on TV with excellence in programming. Keep up the good work!*

J.C. Demers  
Regina

*SCN deserves all praise for providing such good viewing, both for entertainment, education or practical daily needs, and more.*

Denise Schmitz  
Saskatoon



Frankie and Walter: One More Time



Thank you for putting Cooking Secrets of the CIA back on the air. I have recently started receiving your program guide, and am impressed with it. SCN airs many good programs.

Lynn Nelson  
Regina

We certainly enjoy your programming. Thank you for many good features. I particularly enjoyed Top Brass last night on the Regina Lions Band.

April Sampson  
Weyburn

I have just finished watching Dad as broadcast on Wednesday at 9:00 MST on SCN. I am speechless and still have tears in my eyes. I cannot believe the tender, poignant account of life that has unfolded before me. I truly believe that this has to be one of the most significant hours of television I have seen in my life.

Robert Lornie

### Broadcast Distribution and Hours

In 1998/99 the Broadcast Network was distributed via Telesat's Anik E1 Satellite. SCN is on-air weekdays from 10:30 a.m. to midnight, and weekends from 8:00 a.m. to midnight.

### Target Audiences

SCN targets special-interest audiences. The emphasis in the selection of programs includes children (pre-school children and youth at home), families, adult learners, seniors, multicultural and Aboriginal communities, and schools.

Four priority areas identified by the Corporation are:

- Curriculum support
- Saskatchewan productions
- Children
- Skills development

### Broadcast Signal

SCN's master control is operated through contractual agreement by the Division of Audio Visual Services, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

SCN does not have production facilities. It supports, stimulates, and promotes the province's television production industry through the development and licensing of programming initiatives. This approach ensures SCN's financial efficiency and effectiveness.



Dall Hospital

### Subject Emphasis

SCN has two distinct program thrusts:

**Formal programming** is directly related to the curriculum taught in K-12 and post-secondary levels of education. These resources are also appropriate for viewing by the general audience.

**Informal educational programming** promotes public education designed to assist individuals in acquiring knowledge and skills. These programs are chosen to encourage viewers to become involved in a variety of learning activities. The audience ranges from preschoolers to seniors.

Productions are evaluated on:

- Content relevance
- Available budget resources, both internally and externally
- Suitability to audience needs
- Production value
- Constituency support

### Partners in Education

SCN provides two hours of network time each school day to deliver K-12 programming directly to the classroom. To do this, SCN works closely with the Curriculum and Instruction Branch of Saskatchewan Education in evaluating, acquiring, and scheduling learning resources to support K-12 curricula. As well, SCN consults with the University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAT) in evaluating, acquiring and scheduling resources to support post-secondary courses. SCN is a member of the Distance Education Program Review Committee (DEPRC) which meets to review priorities for funding distance education in Saskatchewan.

In 1998/99, SCN contributed approximately 135 new hours of programming to formal education.

Broadcast Network time is also dedicated to post-secondary programs to support independent study courses and courses delivered on SCN's Training Network.



## Partnerships

Where specific needs are not addressed by existing inventory, SCN works with others to develop new resources. Saskatchewan Education, SCN, independent producers, and others collaborate to produce programming. Partnerships with the Saskatchewan film and video industry stimulate the economy by providing industry development and jobs for many talented and creative individuals. Examples of initiatives include:

### One Survivor's Message: Don't Kill Yourself

This live, interactive television program is about youth suicide, and was hosted by celebrated Canadian journalist, Ann Medina. The program was produced by Lori Kuffner of Independent Moving Productions Inc., and began with the documentary *One Survivor's Message: Don't Kill Yourself*. This short film is about a Saskatchewan boy, David, who attempted suicide. He now considers himself "one of the lucky ones" who have re-built their lives.

Following the documentary, Ann Medina moderated discussion among a live studio audience, including David, and a panel composed of:

- Jeannette Ambrose, M.Ed., Psychologist, Child and Youth Services, Saskatoon;
- Stan Cuthand, retired Minister, Teacher, Indian Studies Faculty, SIFC, Saskatoon; and
- Autumn Fox, a grade 12 student and suicide survivor, who is a peer group leader at Luther College, Regina.

Audience members came from many of the agencies supporting, publicizing and/or participating in the program.

### Saskatchewan Arts Board Vignettes

In 1998, SCN began airing a series of station IDs featuring Saskatchewan artists' work from the Arts Board permanent collection. Following the success of these IDs, SCN prepared a series of shorts commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Saskatchewan Arts Board. The shorts featured several pieces of art running one after another, a music overlay, and closed with a voice-over and logo saluting the Arts Board's 50 years of service to Saskatchewan art and artists.

Ann Medina rehearsing on the set of *One Survivor's Message: Don't Kill Yourself*

### Restoration of the Legislative Building

SCN is involved in its ongoing and successful partnership with a number of government departments and agencies to produce a fourth program in the *Legislative Education Series*. The current project also includes the production of a series of educational vignettes. The goal of the program and the accompanying vignettes is to capture the magnitude of the four-year restoration of the Saskatchewan Legislative Building from historical, architectural, scientific and engineering standpoints.

The production is a project of the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation, in partnership with SCN, Saskatchewan Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, Saskatchewan Education, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, City of Regina Archives, and The Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

## Program Inventory: Acquisitions

### Examples of Acquisition Inventory

SCN has acquired many excellent alternative programs for broadcast, including:

#### *A Scattering of Seeds: The Creation of Canada*

This series of 13 documentary films explores the dreams and determination of Canada's first European immigrants. It is a journey into the hopes and triumphs of those who built a nation, interpreted by Canada's best independent documentary filmmakers.

#### *Dotto's Data Café*

Host Steve Dotto's down-to-earth and often humorous style makes complicated computer concepts easy to understand for even the most technically challenged.



I would very much like to be on the mailing list for your program guide. Watching TV is a planned activity for me and guides such as yours help me to plan my viewing and ensure that I don't miss really good stuff!

Ann Barnsley  
Balcarres

The province is fortunate to have SCN.

Alexandra Brady  
Regina

SCN remains a favourite channel in this house. I am still breathless about the beauty of the Proust documentary you have shown several times. It is absolutely one of the most beautiful pieces I have ever viewed anywhere.

Ralph Fram  
Saskatoon

I would very much like to receive your free program guide. Since I retired from teaching in June, I have missed your excellent schedule. SCN, in my opinion, has the best programming available. Keep up the good work! Thanks so much!

Dorina Ford  
Tompson

SCN is the most wonderful little channel.

Pam McLeod  
Regina

I enjoy your communications network very much and would like to be on your mailing list for the Program Guide. Would you also send a copy to my sister-in-law and daughter-in-law as they enjoy SCN too and hate to miss your special programs.

Bernice Anderson  
Prince Albert

Our view of cooking (Two Fat Ladies); the Scottish Highlands (Hamish MacBeth); J.S. Bach (Yo-Yo Ma: Inspired by Bach); and of course, "Aidsfield" (Heartbeat) has been forever changed, entranced, challenged and cemented, thanks to the wonderful variety of programs you offer. We do thank you and can only hope your viewers will be fortunate for many years to come.

Janet Beadnell  
Regina

I want you to know that I find the program Hamish MacBeth very enjoyable. The stories are funny and good, the accents are believable and the scenery is beautiful. Hopefully SCN staff will continue to find the little gems for the viewers. Thank you.

Joan G. Neil  
Regina

### Historylands

From Fort Conger in Nunavut to Green Gables House in Prince Edward Island, Historylands documents 13 of Canada's most compelling National Historic Sites. The series travels across the country bringing to life both the prehistoric and recorded history of Canada's most famous landmarks. To fully understand where we are today, it is vital for us, as Canadians, to understand our past. Historylands offers Canadians a window into some of the most important events and sites in Canadian history.

### Treasures of the Wild

Enjoyed by audiences around the world, this series presents the natural treasures of northwestern North America. From the grand and haunting hoodoos guarding the Milk River, to the mighty grizzly bears of Admiralty Island, to the beauty of Bathurst Island, Karvonen Films has captured many breathtaking views of these wilderness areas.

### Rainmakers

Rainmakers tells the inspiring stories of six leaders who have overcome difficult personal situations, taken control of their lives and helped others. The program journeys to the United States, Romania, India, Canada, Peru and Thailand to encounter these young activists who are crusading for change.

### The Independent Eye

Well-known author and film critic Geoff Pevere hosts a second season of Canadian short drama and animation films. The line-up includes 60 exciting projects from filmmakers across Canada. The films tell universal stories that represent important pieces of work in the body of Canadian filmmaking.

### Dotto on Dotto

This live, two-hour program looks at computer technology in the home, office and school. The show explores the technology, the personalities in the industry and the business of high tech. The show has several regular features: in studio, video conferences, guests, and calls from viewers and listeners.

## Saskatchewan Production Development of New Resources

SCN is committed to the development of the film and video industry in Saskatchewan. A strong industry generates direct economic benefits for the province in the form of jobs and financial investment in provincial resources.

SCN stimulates original production through the acquisition of broadcast licences. The producer and content stakeholders further contribute financially to support the project. This process results in a finished production with a greater value than the SCN contribution. For every dollar invested by SCN, the film and video industry generates over four dollars.

A further benefit is the attraction of Canadian Television/Cable Production Fund and Telefilm funding dollars, facilitated by SCN's broadcast licence and venue for initial broadcast.

As of March 31, 1999, SCN participated in close to 400 Saskatchewan-based projects in various phases of production; to date, over 200 of these have been completed and are available for broadcast.

SCN's participation in original Saskatchewan productions provides the Broadcast Network with a distinctly different program schedule. Original production provides a substantial stimulus for the province's film and video industry and captures Saskatchewan's unique culture.

SCN builds strategic alliances with many organizations in the province, including educational institutions, government departments, professional associations, non-profit organizations, and the province's film and video industry to identify new program requirements, and to meet targeted audience needs.



The Gift of the Grandfathers

## Examples of Saskatchewan Production Inventory

Saskatchewan film and video producers are developing an international reputation for their skills and artistry. The following projects are examples of the many excellent Saskatchewan productions which SCN has been proud to be associated with.

### Scarred by History

This is a story of the Sywanyks—one generation of a Ukrainian family. Filmed both in Saskatoon and in the picturesque village of Markova, Ukraine, it is a poignant account of three sisters and a brother. This program represents the dramatic history of the Ukrainian nation in the 20th century. Produced by Four Square Productions.

### Incredible Story Studio

What do limburger cheese, a monstrous zit and a mind-control machine called Arkenog have in common? They are all part of Mind's Eye Pictures' new children's series—Canada's first series where kids tell their own stories. The 25 stories featured in the first series were all written by young authors in Grades 6, 7, and 8, and their funny, sometimes funky, always imaginative tales are certain to captivate and entertain young viewers. This fabulous home-grown series is being distributed around the world by some of the industry's biggest players.

### The Heart Becomes Quiet

On one December night in 1984 a poisonous gas rose from the industrial plant, then sedately, unhurriedly, floated over the sleeping city. The Heart Becomes Quiet will show the Bhopal gas survivors in the full complexity of their sorrow, rage, sympathy and grace. Ultimately, this program shows the legacy of a tragedy that has brought out the worst in some people, yet has offered others the possibility of redemption. Produced by Zima Junction Productions.

### Frankie and Walter: One More Time

Frankie and Walter: One More Time follows polka legends Walter Ostanek and the late Frankie Yankovic and their band, The Western Senators, on their unprecedented Saskatchewan musical odyssey, the "World Heavyweight Polka Champions Tour." The program features performances of Frankie and Walter's classic polka tunes, interviews with their fans, as well as a behind-the-scenes look at the tour itself as they travel across the Saskatchewan landscape. Produced by Camera West Film Associates Ltd.

## Impact on Saskatchewan Film & Video Industry

The Saskatchewan Independent Film and Video Industry (not including the commercial television industry) has a present value of approximately \$48 million per year, as reported by SaskFilm. There are approximately 200 to 300 persons who directly make their living in this industry.

I can't begin to tell you how much pleasure I get from some of the shows I watch, actually it would be easier to list what I don't like. It would be lovely to see more Catherine Cookson films, since I'm from the U.K., all British shows are very welcome, but I'm sure you are told of this often by other viewers. Anyway keep up the good work.

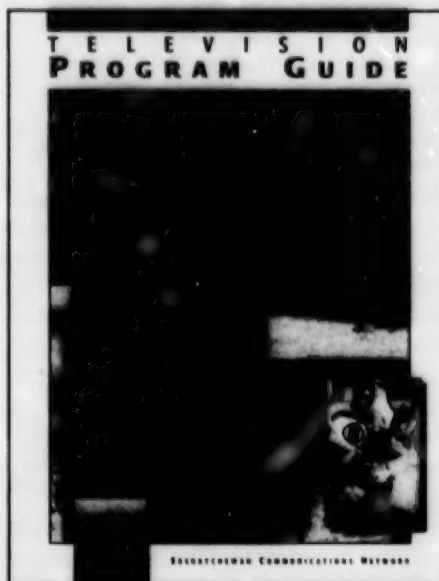
Jean A. Doyle  
Kyle

Can you let me know if you will be showing a new series of Heartbeat? We are addicted to this program and really enjoy Hamish MacBeth too!!! We would like you to pick up the next portion of that series as well. In Ontario they are showing another Brit series called Where the Heart Is - this excellent show features some favorite Coronation Street alumni. TV Ontario carries it. We crave quality programs, which we are able to find on SCN. You deserve a big hug!!!! Think about Hamish and Where the Heart Is for future schedules.

Ron and Melanie Jakobs  
Dedicated Viewers

My 2 1/2 year old son recently saw two episodes of Mighty Machines and is fascinated with the show. Now he asks daily to watch it but I see from your programming schedule that it is finished. Are Mighty Machine videos available for purchase?

Juanita Gaber



## Technical Overview

SCN uses satellite delivered Digital Video Compression (DVC) technology to distribute its Training and Broadcast Network signals throughout Saskatchewan.

For the Training Network, one-way video and audio are transmitted from classroom studios to receiving sites where students participate in the live lectures on television, and interact with instructors via telephone, fax and internet. Receiving locations at regional colleges and high schools are equipped with satellite dishes and appropriate equipment as recommended by SCN.

Training Network programs originate from eight classroom studios around the province. Other studios and locations can be connected to SCN's network as required for special events.



Video and audio signals from the various locations are transported to SCN's uplinks utilizing the province's SaskTel fiber optic and microwave radio telecommunications infrastructure. SCN's uplink, located at and operated under contract by the University of Saskatchewan's Division of Audio Visual Services (DAVS) in Saskatoon, is the primary transmit facility for the Training and Broadcast Networks. When additional traffic warrants, signals are routed to a secondary uplink, on an occasional

use basis, owned and operated by SaskTel in Regina. From the uplinks, signals are transmitted to Telesat Canada's Anik E1 satellite.

Broadcast Network signals originate from SCN's Master Control provided under contract from within the facilities of the U of S, DAVS. SCN provides satellite receivers for cable companies in 256 Saskatchewan communities. The Broadcast Network is also carried on the Image Wireless cable system throughout the province, and Star Choice's direct-to-home satellite system.

SCN replaced its analog satellite transmission system with a state-of-the-art Digital Video Compression (DVC) system in August 1996. DVC has greatly improved signal reliability, quality, cost efficiency and program capacity. DVC provides 5 video/audio channels to SCN on a full-time basis for Broadcast and Training Network programs, eliminating SCN's need to lease scarce, expensive, occasional use satellite capacity during high traffic periods.

The DVC system provides greater signal capacity than required for SCN, and with the cooperation of SaskTel, the same excess capacity is leased to provide expanded and improved services for other distribution systems. Television coverage of proceedings in the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly expanded from 79 to 88 communities throughout the province this year, and CBC Radio was carried to isolated transmitter locations in Saskatchewan's far north. Revenue from the leases help to offset SCN's operating expenses.

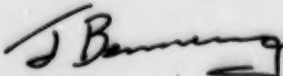
SCN contracted with SaskTel for signal transport and maintenance of equipment at some receiving sites. SaskTel also provided administration and operation of the Digital Video Compression System in Regina, and an invaluable Help Desk service utilized by all receiving locations on the Training Network.

### **Responsibility For Financial Statements**

The financial statements of Saskatchewan Communications Network Corporation (SCN) have been prepared by the management of SCN in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada. The financial statements have been examined and approved by the Board of Directors of SCN. The independent auditors have performed an audit of SCN which has enabled them to express their opinion on the financial statements of SCN. This opinion is shown opposite.

Preparation of financial information is an integral part of management's broader responsibilities for the ongoing operations of SCN. Management is responsible for the system of internal accounting controls to ensure that transactions are accurately recorded on a timely basis, are properly approved, and result in reliable financial statements.

An Audit Committee, composed of members of the Board of Directors of SCN, meets periodically with management and the independent auditors. These independent auditors have free access to this committee, without management present, to discuss the results of their audit work and their opinion on the adequacy of internal financial controls and the quality of financial reporting.



James Benning  
President and CEO

## **Financial Statements**

For the Year ended March 31, 1999

### **Auditors' Report**

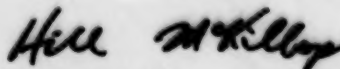
To the Members of the Legislative Assembly,

Province of Saskatchewan, Regina, Saskatchewan:

We have audited the balance sheet of Saskatchewan Communications Network Corporation as at 31 March 1999, and the statements of revenue, expenditures and retained earnings and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at 31 March 1999, and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountants  
23 April 1999  
Regina, Saskatchewan



# Saskatchewan Communications Network Corporation

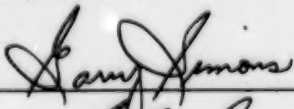
## Balance Sheet

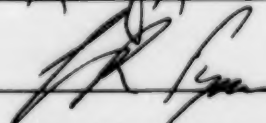
As at March 31, 1999

|   | 1999<br>\$              | 1998<br>\$              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>   |                         |                         |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                     |                         |                         |
| Cash and short-term investments                           | 2,508,117               | 1,665,643               |
| Accounts receivable and accrued interest (note 9)         | 241,412                 | 234,499                 |
| Inventory and prepaid expenses                            | 103,679                 | 111,929                 |
|   | <u>2,853,208</u>        | <u>2,012,071</u>        |
| <b>Capital Assets (note 3)</b>                            | <u>939,084</u>          | <u>1,275,003</u>        |
|   | <u><b>3,792,292</b></u> | <u><b>3,287,074</b></u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>  |                         |                         |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                                |                         |                         |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 9)         | 1,353,184               | 1,242,082               |
| Funds under administration (note 4)                       | 74,063                  | 124,575                 |
| Unearned revenue  | 722,412                 | 177,778                 |
|   | <u>2,149,659</u>        | <u>1,544,435</u>        |
| <b>EQUITY</b>   |                         |                         |
| Equity in capital assets (note 5)                         | 939,084                 | 1,275,003               |
| Appropriated retained earnings - capital reserve (note 6) | 150,000                 | 0                       |
| Unappropriated retained earnings                          | 553,549                 | 467,636                 |
|   | <u>1,642,633</u>        | <u>1,742,639</u>        |
|   | <u><b>3,792,292</b></u> | <u><b>3,287,074</b></u> |

Commitments (note 7)

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Director

see accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements



# Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Retained Earnings

For the Year Ended March 31, 1999

|   | 1999<br>\$       | 1998<br>\$       |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| REVENUE   |                  |                  |
| Grant from the Government of Saskatchewan<br>- General Revenue Fund | 7,305,000        | 7,282,000        |
| Interest  | 121,159          | 68,790           |
| Satellite conferencing and channel rentals                          | 173,938          | 136,223          |
| Project administration  | 21,107           | 27,700           |
| Miscellaneous   | 40,849           | 1,744            |
| Transponder lease   | 533,333          | 355,555          |
|   | <u>8,195,386</u> | <u>7,872,012</u> |
| EXPENDITURES  |                  |                  |
| Administration (note 12)  | 810,377          | 708,359          |
| Program support   | 522,416          | 473,669          |
| Program development and production costs                            | 864,981          | 853,791          |
| Program acquisition costs   | 2,052,786        | 1,866,905        |
| Network distribution (note 12)                                      | 4,044,832        | 3,997,119        |
|   | <u>8,295,392</u> | <u>7,899,843</u> |
| EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES<br>FOR THE YEAR       | (100,006)        | (27,831)         |
| UNAPPROPRIATED RETAINED EARNINGS - BEGINNING OF YEAR                | 467,636          | 493,580          |
| Allocation (to)/from equity in capital assets (note 5)              | 335,919          | 1,887            |
| Appropriation (to)/from Capital Reserve (note 6)                    | (150,000)        | 0                |
| UNAPPROPRIATED RETAINED EARNINGS - END OF YEAR                      | <u>553,549</u>   | <u>467,636</u>   |

see accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

**Statement of Changes in Financial Position**

For the Year Ended March 31, 1999

|  | 1999<br>\$       | 1998<br>\$       |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES   |                  |                  |
| Excess (Deficit) of revenue over expenditures for the year                         | (100,006)        | (27,831)         |
| Item not affecting cash - Depreciation (note 12)                                   | 437,627          | 407,002          |
| Net increase/(decrease) in non-cash working capital balances related to operations | 606,561          | 185,617          |
|  | <u>944,182</u>   | <u>564,788</u>   |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES   |                  |                  |
| Purchase of capital assets (net of disposals)                                      | (101,708)        | (405,115)        |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                                   | 842,474          | 159,673          |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR                                      | 1,665,643        | 1,505,970        |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR  | <u>2,508,117</u> | <u>1,665,643</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents consist of:  |                  |                  |
| Short-term investments   | 1,585,656        | 1,290,911        |
| Bank balances  | 1,182,076        | 742,982          |
| Less outstanding cheques   | (259,615)        | (368,250)        |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR  | <u>2,508,117</u> | <u>1,665,643</u> |

see accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31, 1999

### 1. Status of Corporation

Saskatchewan Communications Advanced Network Authority (SCAN) was established by an order-in-council January 11, 1989 under the Crown Corporations Act, 1978. SCAN was continued as Saskatchewan Communications Network Corporation (SCN) under the Communications Network Corporation Act, 1990.

The Corporation operates a Training Network, which electronically links communities throughout Saskatchewan, and a cable network, which began broadcasting on May 6, 1991 under licence from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). The current licence expires on August 31, 1999. SCN has completed and submitted all required documentation to support its request for a seven-year licence renewal.

### 2. Significant Accounting Policies

#### a) Short-term investments

Short-term investments are recorded at cost, which approximates market value.

#### b) Inventory

Inventory, consisting of blank video tapes, is recorded at the lower of cost, determined on a first-in, first-out basis, and net realizable value. Inventory, consisting of receivers, is recorded at the lower of cost, determined on a weighted average basis, and net realizable value.

#### c) Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation. With the exception of the digital video compression equipment (DVC) and network alignment, depreciation is calculated using the declining balance method as follows:

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Office equipment and furniture                                    | 30%                        |
| Uplink development, network configuration and multiplexing system | 30%                        |
| Computer hardware   | 40%                        |
| TVs, VCRs, satellite dish and video equipment receivers           | 40%                        |
| Fax machines and audio conferencing units                         | 50%                        |
| Computer software   | 60%                        |
| Digital video compression equipment                               | Straight Line over 5 years |
| Network alignment   | Straight Line over 3 years |

#### d) Transponder lease

The Corporation has entered into a three-year sublease of transponder space on a satellite. The lessee has assumed payment direct to the satellite space provider and has provided the Corporation with a premium on the sub-lease which is recorded as revenue for the period in which it is earned. All costs associated with providing the sub-lease have been capitalized as network alignment costs and are amortized over the term of the lease.

#### e) Revenue recognition

Government contributions are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year in which they are due to the Corporation.

Other revenues are recognized when the related service is provided.

#### f) Program acquisition and production

Program acquisition and production costs are expensed as incurred.

### 3. Capital Assets

The components of the capital assets as well as the related accumulated depreciation are as follows:

|  | 1999             |                          | 1998           |                  |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
|  | Cost             | Accumulated Depreciation | Net Book value | Net Book value   |
|  | \$               | \$                       | \$             | \$               |
| Office equipment and furniture               | 148,733          | 133,969                  | 14,764         | 13,569           |
| Uplink development and network configuration | 1,157,962        | 1,107,785                | 50,177         | 71,681           |
| Computer hardware                            | 279,052          | 249,776                  | 29,276         | 21,344           |
| TVs, VCRs, cameras and satellite receivers   | 472,376          | 428,481                  | 43,895         | 36,717           |
| Fax machines and conferencing units          | 30,346           | 28,638                   | 1,708          | 548              |
| Computer software                            | 135,606          | 123,972                  | 11,634         | 1,658            |
| Digital video compression equipment          | 1,487,383        | 752,279                  | 735,104        | 1,037,566        |
| Network alignment                            | 118,184          | 65,658                   | 52,526         | 91,920           |
|  | <b>3,829,642</b> | <b>2,890,558</b>         | <b>939,084</b> | <b>1,275,003</b> |

### 4. Funds Under Administration

The Corporation administers funds on behalf of related parties, in accordance with the terms of contracts between the Corporation and the related parties.

### 5. Equity in Capital Assets

|  | 1999           | 1998             |
|--|----------------|------------------|
|  | \$             | \$               |
| Balance - beginning of year            | 1,275,003      | 1,276,890        |
| Allocation (to)/from retained earnings | (335,919)      | (1,887)          |
| Balance - end of year                  | <b>939,084</b> | <b>1,275,003</b> |

### 6. Capital Reserve

The Board of Directors has approved the appropriation of \$150,000 of retained earnings. The reserve has been established to provide for the replacement and upgrading of SCN's technical equipment. Amounts may be transferred from the reserve on the authority of the Board of Directors.

### 7. Commitments

#### a) Productions

At March 31, 1999 the Corporation had commitments totaling \$34,500 (1998 - \$68,690) representing the estimated costs to complete productions in progress.

#### b) Broadcast and duplication rights

At March 31, 1999 the Corporation had commitments totaling \$1,290,780 (1998 - \$777,900) for the acquisition of broadcast and duplication rights.

#### c) Full-time satellite transponder

The Corporation has a contract for a full-time KuBand satellite transponder. The contract cost for 1999-2000 is \$1,466,033 (1998-99 \$1,466,033). The contract is extended annually with periodic adjustments in cost approved by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

#### d) Head end contract

The Corporation has a contract with the University of Saskatchewan, a related party, for the operation of SCN's master control, tape duplication, packaging and promotional productions and uplinking. The contract cost for 1999-2000 is approximately \$806,358 (1998-99 \$806,358) plus a yearly increase for inflation. The contract extends to March 31, 2000.

**e) Multiplexer and uplink contracts**

The Corporation has contracts with SaskTel, a related party, for a ten-year period ending September, 2000 for multiplexer and uplink services with a minimum annual fee of \$130,000.

**8. Related Party Transactions**

All Government of Saskatchewan agencies such as departments, corporations, boards and commissions are related since all are controlled by the government.

Included in these financial statements are income and expense amounts resulting from routine operating transactions conducted at prevailing market prices with various Saskatchewan Crown-controlled departments, agencies and corporations with which SCN is related. The more significant of these are Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training, SaskTel, the Universities, SIAST, and the Regional Colleges.

Account balances resulting from these transactions are included in the balance sheet and are settled on normal trade terms.

The following table summarizes SCN's major related party transactions that are in the normal course of operations. These transactions are recorded at exchange amounts agreed to by the related parties.

|  | <b>1999</b>    | <b>1998</b> |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>  | <b>\$</b>      | <b>\$</b>   |
| - Saskatchewan Social Services for satellite conferences                               | <b>36,166</b>  | 4,185       |
| - Saskatchewan Health for satellite conferences  | <b>20,276</b>  | 19,882      |
| - SIAST for studio use   | <b>26,723</b>  | 10,537      |
| <b>Expenditures</b>  |                |             |
| <b>Administration</b>  |                |             |
| - SPMC for accommodation expense   | <b>91,078</b>  | 82,635      |
| - SaskTel for telephone operating costs  | <b>32,266</b>  | 27,304      |
| <b>Program development - Universities, SIAST</b>                                       | <b>660,000</b> | 660,000     |
| <b>Network distribution</b>  |                |             |
| - Regional Colleges/SIAST for operation of Training Network sites                      | <b>874,500</b> | 860,286     |
| - SaskTel for video and audio signal transport services, and telephone operating costs | <b>167,085</b> | 216,681     |
| <b>Accounts Receivable at March 31, 1999</b>   |                |             |
| SaskTel for purchase of equipment and channel rental                                   | <b>129,845</b> | 155,482     |
| <b>Accounts Payable at March 31, 1999</b>  |                |             |
| SaskTel for backhaul, uplink, multiplex and telephone charges                          | <b>211,750</b> | 158,694     |

Other transactions with related parties, including their terms of settlement, are described separately in the financial statements and notes therein.

**9. Financial Instruments**

The Corporation's recognized financial instruments consist of accounts receivable, accounts payable and short-term investments. The Corporation does not have any financial assets or financial liabilities which are not recognized in the financial statements.

**Credit risk**

The Corporation is exposed to credit risk from the potential default of customers. However, the majority of the Corporation's receivables are from related parties, other government corporations and agencies. Therefore the credit risk is minimal.

**Fair values**

The fair values of accounts receivable and all accounts payable approximate their carrying value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

## 10. Comparative Financial Information

For comparative purposes, certain 1998 balances have been reclassified to conform with the 1999 financial statement presentation.

## 11. Year 2000 Issues

The Year 2000 Issue arises because many computerized systems use two digits rather than four to identify a year. Data-sensitive systems may recognize the year 2000 as 1900 or some other date, resulting in errors when information using year 2000 dates is processed. In addition, similar problems may arise in some systems which use certain dates in 1999 to represent something other than a date. The effects of the Year 2000 issue may be experienced before, on, or after January 1, 2000 and, if not addressed, the impact on operations and financial reporting may range from minor errors to significant systems failure which could affect the organization's ability to conduct normal business operations. Management has prepared a Year 2000 compliance plan which attempts to address all areas of significant risk. Areas which require attention have been identified, and resolved at the time these financial statements were prepared however, it is not possible to be certain that all aspects of the Year 2000 Issue affecting the entity, including those related to the efforts of consumers, suppliers, or other third parties, will be fully resolved.

## 12. Comparison of Planned and Actual Results of Expenditures

|  | 1999      |           | 1998      |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | Budget    | Actual    | Actual    |
|  | \$        | \$        | \$        |
| Administration                           | 764,697   | 738,850   | 657,168   |
| Program support                          | 516,747   | 522,416   | 473,669   |
| Program development and production costs | 1,275,000 | 864,981   | 853,791   |
| Program acquisition costs                | 1,638,820 | 2,052,786 | 1,866,905 |
| Network distribution                     | 3,915,169 | 3,678,732 | 3,641,288 |
| Administration - depreciation            | —         | 71,527    | 51,171    |
| Network distribution - depreciation      | —         | 366,100   | 355,831   |
| Total                                    | 8,110,433 | 8,295,392 | 7,899,843 |

|  | 1999    | 1999    | 1998    |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Capital Expenditures                   | Budget  | Actual  | Actual  |
|  | \$      | \$      | \$      |
| Administration (Net of disposal)       | 63,000  | 40,350  | 150,855 |
| Network distribution (Net of disposal) | 49,000  | 61,359  | 254,260 |
| Total                                  | 112,000 | 101,709 | 405,115 |

## 13. Classification of Expenditures by Object

|  | 1999      | 1998      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
|  | \$        | \$        |
| Salaries (including benefits)          | 1,186,576 | 993,017   |
| Communications                         | 208,838   | 167,064   |
| Administration - Operations            | 419,422   | 368,152   |
| Programming - General                  | 1,556,129 | 1,346,082 |
| Programming - Educational              | 937,500   | 910,457   |
| Other production and acquisition costs | 424,138   | 464,157   |
| Carriage                               | 2,161,662 | 2,292,904 |
| Regional College operational grants    | 874,500   | 860,286   |
| Network operations                     | 526,627   | 497,724   |
| Total                                  | 8,295,392 | 7,899,843 |



Public Affairs also serves as the main point of contact between the Corporation, its networks and the Saskatchewan public. Members of the public who desire information about SCN, who have comments on SCN programs or services, or who would like to make other inquiries about the Corporation should contact the Public Affairs office at the addresses and numbers on the back.